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General Allen

In consequence of the leave you have given me with pleasure I will communicate you the following thoughts earnestly desiring you'd be persuaded that they have not been dictated by vanity or foolish presumption, but by a sincere and honest desire of being somewhat usefull to a State for the industry and the energy of which I have a great respect. I am an American by a Law of this State passed in the Year 1769. I have lived and dwelled in it ever since. I married 1770. I have three Children. I have drained 300 acres of Bog meadow built a house cleared many acres of Land planted a great Orchard. by imprisonment loss of Property & many severe hardships the fortunate ——— of ——— the last severe conflict with the rest of my fellow Citizens. I have since the pleasure of publishing in Europe a work of which has been well received by the public wherein many interesting facts are Recorded of the bravery, Patience & Sufferings of the Americans in the protection of the last War —

Such Dear Sir are the titles whereon I presume to found & establish the Liberty I am now taking —

1st I offer to have the Seal of your State elegantly engraved on Silver by the Kings best engravers and to change somewhat the Devices thereof Dont you want a privy Seal? I offer with equal pleasure to get an engraved for the College the State of Vermont intends erecting and I will take upon myself the imagining the device thereof — — —

I will do my best endeavors to procure from the King some marks of his bounty and some usefull presents for the above College —

The General will be pleased to remember the different anecdotes which he has promised me whether of War, or peace natural occurrences extraordinary circumstances of natural history —

I should be greatly obliged to the General for any Maps or Draughts of that State or any part thereof — for instance — If New Towns are laid out should like to have the Maps of them.

If the General approves what yesterday I told him concerning national and the simple tho efficacious way of shewing it to such French Characters as have amply deserved it; I will beg of the General Assembly that in order to prepare the minds of the good People of Vermont for that measure he would be pleased to get inserted in the Bennington news papers that part of the N. Y. Gazette which

I showed him yesterday — No opportunity can be so favorable as the present one offered. Since new Countries and districts will soon be laid out, I would propose that the Town to be laid out on the first fall of Otter Creek may be called the town of Vergennes or Vergennesburg — That which is to be laid out on the first falls of Onion River Castriboli after the name of the Minister of the Marine who had a very great share in all the naval expeditions, by which finally independence has been obtained. I would propose that the new Towns to be laid out should be called Gallipolis, Rochamdeau, Noaillesburg — That some of the new Districts or precincts might be called, Targetsfield, Fannysbury, Harcourt, Ludovicopolis, Condorset, Brothersfield, Danville, Sophysburg — & if the General don't think me too presumptuous in order to answer to what he so kindly said yesterday, I would observe that the name of St. John being already given to many places in this Country it might be contrived by the appellation of St Johnsbury. but the most flattering honor the Citizens of Vermont could confer on me would be to be naturalised a Citizen of that State along with my three Children America Frances St John, William Alexander St John, Philip Lewis St John —

Where could letters or other things be left in New-york so that they might be safely conveyed to the General in Vermont; that is an important circumstan without which our mutual correspondence may be interrupted a thing which I should greatly regret. I shall write the General from Paris by every packet & inform him of whatever I do which be usefull to your State and College. As soon as any resolutions will be taken towards giving to the new towns & distri some of the new names. I earnestly ~~recommend~~ beg the General would write the account of it and the reasons which have induced the people in the State of Vermont and publish that in the Bennington Gazette which I should beg of him to send me by two or three different ways. I should not fail to have that part translated & put into the French Newspapers with the name of the Gen. If Gen. Allen thought it proper I would likewise like to publish the anecdotes I expect to receive from him with his name. — The name of the New College I would beg leave to send it along with the new seal. which I shall send you from Paris. I will direct my letters to be left at the post-office of this City & to be conveyed to Albany post. Therefore I beg you'd speak to the Albany Post Master likewise you must speak to him to send your Letters for me to the Albany Post to come to the Post-Office of this City. my direction is No 202 Queen Street. I shall not to shew your book to of Paris & to transmit to you there reflections thereon, wishing your State every prosperity. your good Gov. Council yourself. My Dear Sir I take my sincere leave of you. I beg y look on me as your true friend and very humble Servant —

New-York 31th May 1785

St John de Crevecoeur